

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 04460 141807Z

20

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04

SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01 /107 W
----- 107161

R 141645Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5080

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

USDEL MTN GENEVA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4460

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CS

SUBJECT: EMBASSY STATEMENT ON AMBASSADOR YEUTTER VISIT

REF: SAN JOSE 4435

1. EMBASSY SENT LETTER SEPTEMBER 10 TO MAJOR SAN JOSE
NEWSPAPERS SUMMARIZING SIGNIFICANT POSITIVE ASPECTS OF AMBASSADOR
YEUTTER VISIT, WHICH HAD BEEN OVERLOOKED IN MUCH OF PRESS
COVERAGE, (REFTEL) AND ALSO COMMENTING ON MEAT AND SUGAR PROBLEMS.
LETTER, WHICH WAS SIGNED BY CHIEF OF ECONOMIC SECTION, WAS
PRINTED IN FULL WITH LEAD ON PAGE 1 IN LA NACION AND LA
REPUBLICA SEPTEMBER 11.

2. EMBASSY LETTER DISCUSSED SUCH POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF AMBASSADOR YEUTTER VISIT AS:

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 04460 141807Z

-OPPORTUNITY FOR FRANK AND FULL EXCHANGE OF POINTS OF VIEW
ON IMPORTANT MTN ISSUES.

-READINESS OF US TO SUPPORT IN GENEVA NUMBER OF WAYS IN WHICH
LDC'S CAN GAIN SPECIAL BENEFITS, SUCH AS: THROUGH DEEPER TARIFF
CUTS ON ITEMS OF SPECIAL LDC INTEREST, THROUGH SPECIAL PROVISIONS
IN "SAFEGUARDS" NEGOTIATIONS FOR SMALL SUPPLIERS AND NEW
ENTRANTS, AND BECAUSE THE US EXPECTS SMALLER "CONTRIBUTIONS"
FROM POORER COUNTRIES THAN FROM THOSE IN HIGHER STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT;

-HIS ASSESSMENT THAT THE US OFFER ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS,
EVEN AFTER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NEED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS BY
LDC'S, IS MORE FAVORABLE THAN THE OFFERS OF OTHER
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

3. ON MEAT, THE EMBASSY LETTER EXPRESSZKX REGRET THAT IT IS
NOT POSSIBLE TO INCREASE THE COSTA RICAN ALLOCATION THIS YEAR
BUT NOTED YEUTTER'S ESTIMATE THAT FAVORABLE MARKET
CONDITIONS EXPECTED NEXT YEAR AND IN 1978 SUGGEST THE LIKELIHOOD
OF AN INCREASE IN ALLOCATIONS IN THE FUTURE. EMBASSY LETTER
OBSERVED THAT US HAS KEPT ITS MARKET OPEN WHEN OTHER MAIN
IMPORTERS HAVE CLOSED THEIRS AND THAT VRS SYSTEM HAS NOT BEEN
TOTALLY NEGATIVE IN ITS EFFECT ON COSTA RICA AS IT HAS
RESERVED FOR COSTA RICAN MEAT A PORTION OF THE US MARKET AT
A TIME WHEN THE LARGEST SUPPLIERS WERE ABLE TO UNDERCUT COSTA
RICAN PRICES. IT ALSO MENTIONED THAT US TAKING STEPS TO CLOSE
LOOPHOLES WHICH HAVE WORKED TO RELATIVE DISADVANTAGE OF COSTA
RICA.

4. ON SUGAR, EMBASSY LETTER COMMENTED THAT MOST OBSERVERS
WOULD AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR YEUTTER THAT NO SUGAR LEGISLATION
IS LIKELY TO BE ENACTED THIS YEAR BECAUSE A MATTER OF THAT
IMPORTANCE REQUIRES MORE TIME AND STUDY THAN THE US CONGRESS
WOULD BE ABLE TO DEVOTE TO IT IN THE REMAINING MONTHS OF
AN ELECTION YEAR.

5. LETTER CONCLUDED WITH OPTIMISTIC STATEMENT ON OUTLOOK
FOR MTN: "AMBASSADOR YEUTTER ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE
ENGAGED IN A NEGOTIATION THAT IS IMPORTANT TO ALL NATIONS AND
WILL REQUIRE GIVE AND TAKE BY ALL PARTICIPANTS. HE
EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE NEGOTIONS WILL MOVE FORWARD TOWARD
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PAGE 03 SAN JO 04460 141807Z

AN OUTCOME THAT WILL BRING SIGNIFICANT GAINS TO ALL OF THE
PARTICIPATING NATIONS ENGAGED IN FOREIGN TRADE. TODMAN

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